

Crawley Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1966

ELEVENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

of

CRAWLEY URBAN DISTRICT

of

WEST SUSSEX

1966

K.N. Mawson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Hon. F.R.S.H.

Medical Officer of Health

T. Steel, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

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Town Hall,
The Boulevard,
CRAWLEY.

(Telephone: Crawley 28744)

Members of the Public Health Committee
1966/67

Mr. A.E. Crane (Chairman)
Mr. D.J. Malt (Vice-Chairman)
Mr. K.H. Ashby
Mrs. E.V. Fowler
Mr. A.J. Locke
Mr. F. Lovell
Mr. M.J. Pudney
Mr. W.R. Wilson

(The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the
Council are ex-officio members of this
Committee)

1.

CRAWLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

July, 1967.

Health Department,
Town Hall,
The Boulevard,
CRAWLEY.

To the: Chairman and Members of the
Crawley Urban District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you the Annual Report of the Health Department for 1966, in which an account is given of the work carried out during the year. This is the eleventh such Report to be circulated since the Urban District was formed in April, 1956, and has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Ministry of Health Circular No.1/67.

Vital Statistics

Extracts from the Vital Statistics for 1966 will be found on page 8. The Registrar-General's estimate of population for mid-1966 rose by 1,000 to 61,290. Details of births and deaths are still passed to the Manager of the Commission for the New Towns, Crawley Executive, and I am told that the estimated population at the end of 1966 was 63,000. The total births during 1966 were 1,082, a fall of 51 from the previous year, and so the Crude Birth Rate has dropped to 17.65. Of the total births, 60 were illegitimate (5.55%) - a figure still below the national average. The Crude Death Rate on the other hand rose slightly, but remains at the very low figure of 5.79.

A detailed table of causes of death appears on page 9. Motor vehicle accidents accounted for 6 deaths, compared with 7 during the previous year, and there were two other deaths due to accidental causes. The number of suicides dropped to 5, - 2 male and 3 female. Malignant diseases in all forms caused 71 deaths and, of these, 21 were due to cancer of lung or bronchus.

In the report for 1965 I pointed out that we then had complete figures for a ten-year period in Crawley - 1956 to 1965 - and that during that decennium, deaths from cancer of the bronchus and lung totalled 141, 123 of which were among males. With the addition of last year's deaths the total now rises to 162, but it should be noted that the number of female deaths has also increased and accounted for 6 out of the 21 in the year. Now that the proportion of young women who smoke cigarettes approximates to that of men, it is clear that in years to come increasing numbers will develop bronchial carcinoma - a form of cancer little amenable to treatment and usually leading to a distressing death.

Notifiable Diseases

As 1966 was not a "Measles Year" notifications received amounted only to 152. Ten cases of whooping cough were also notified.

Whereas in the previous year only one case of Sonne dysentery came to light - the patient having contracted the infection while away on holiday - this disease again occurred fairly widely in the early months of the year. On the 13th January we were told that a child had been seen by his doctor with symptoms strongly suggestive of dysentery and the doctor passed this information to us at once, as the child was known to be attending a day nursery accommodated in a hall used for other purposes during the evenings. Enquiries were immediately made, when it was found that a total of 36 children, aged between 2 and 5 years, were on the nursery roll and that cases of gastro-enteritis had been occurring since January 7th, since when 10 children and one helper had been affected. Specimens were collected from all these and from their home contacts and by the end of the week a further ten positives had been reported. It was felt that temporary closure of the nursery was essential, although such a step inevitably causes inconvenience, and in some cases even hardship, to the parents. Among the contacts were children attending three infant or junior schools, so it was agreed with the County Medical Officer that preventive measures should be taken at all schools in the town, as the first quarter of any year is the time of highest incidence for this disease in the country generally.

During February and March the overall position showed little change: by the middle of February 70 positive cases had been traced from 43 families, while the schools involved totalled 10, although in 7 of these there were only single cases. By mid March the current cases were 58 from 30 families and 8 schools were involved - although again 5 only had single cases. At that time the main concern was Jordans School, where there had been an extensive outbreak in the first quarter of 1964, and it was necessary to draw the attention of the County Council to certain deficiencies in the sanitary provision at the school. Children from four hatted classrooms were required to share a toilet block which provided one urinal, one W.C. and two basins for 60 boys, and only two W.Cs. and two basins for 75 girls.

In my monthly report to the Public Health Committee on the 26th May, 74 notifications of dysentery were included for the period of nine weeks up to May 14th, but the majority of these referred to cases which had occurred late in March or early in April and there had been a steady improvement since. At that time the trouble was limited to schools in the north-west part of the town and it was possible to relax precautionary measures elsewhere.

In our final survey of the outbreak it was of interest to note that the classes at Jordans School, referred to above as having deficiencies in sanitation, were in the seven-year group and these showed

a lower incidence than the infants, for whom the standard provision had been made!

The exercise of control measures in such an outbreak, valuable though they may be, interferes seriously with the work of the Health Department and occupies much of the time of the Inspectors, including many hours spent on evening visits. Useful comments are made by the Chief Public Health Inspector on the practical aspects of control in his section of the report (page 17).

Food Poisoning

Only one case of food poisoning was formally notified during the year. The patient was a young woman, found to be infected by *Salmonella typhi-murium*. Her illness, however, had commenced while on the journey home by air from South America, where she had been on holiday.

During May we were informed by the Health Department of an adjoining district in East Sussex that a suspected outbreak of food poisoning had followed a "Buffet-Dance" held at a country hotel on a Friday evening. Three couples known to have been present lived in Crawley and a further two in the Horsham area. Initial enquiries appeared to support the theory, as the average onset of gastro-intestinal symptoms occurred approximately 36 hours after the supper, namely early on the Sunday morning. However all specimens collected in a number of different districts revealed no pathogens and there is no doubt that the trouble was of viral origin. Further support for this view was the fact that the manager's wife, - who had prepared the "snacks", - and the rest of his family, all became affected with similar symptoms during the early hours of the Friday night. This is yet another example of an outbreak where food may conceivably have been the vehicle of infection of a viral disease.

The Myth of "Crawley Tummy"

During the last few years, concern has been expressed on a number of occasions regarding the undoubted occurrence of many cases of abdominal upset, even affecting whole families, in Crawley. In February, 1966, when an outbreak was in progress, a letter from me was published in the Crawley "Observer" under the above title, following an appeal which had suggested that "a serious effort should be made to eliminate this prevailing Crawley scourge". In December last a "petition" was addressed to me with the names of 92 signatories asking for "a full-scale investigation", and a copy was sent to the Chief Engineer of the Water Board. Arising from this a meeting was held in the Town Hall with representatives of the signatories in April last, when it was suggested that this condition was responsible for many other types of abdominal complaint. Clearly some of those present were not satisfied with the explanations given, for a letter in the "Observer" on June 23rd,

under the heading of "MYSTERY BUG PROBE PLEA", refers to "the vast number of gastric complaints in Crawley" and goes on to ask "can it be eliminated?" and "is it responsible for the large number of people of all ages suffering from one or more of the following: Gall-stones, dysentery, cystitis, urinary infections, peptic ulcers, colitis, and pyelitis?" In view of this feeling, it is desirable that everyone should know the true position.

Of recent years there has been a marked increase in the incidence of viral gastro-enteritis in all parts of Britain. The most usual variety, often referred to as "epidemic vomiting", has a sudden onset with upper abdominal pain, quickly followed by vomiting and possibly by diarrhoea. Adults in particular often complain of associated dizziness. Although most distressing to the patient, recovery is usually fairly rapid. I know of no town in Britain which has not been affected, while small villages in the rural areas often have explosive, but short-lived, outbreaks which frequently start in the local school. The areas where the condition is most troublesome are the holiday resorts, where the turnover of population is greatest. This infection is not, however, met with only in Great Britain, for all parts of the world report similar experiences, and at a recent scientific conference in London a speaker referred to "the unprecedented outbreak of viral gastro-enteritis" which had "swept the whole of the North American continent during the last six months".

The history of medicine shows that epidemic infections can only be controlled when the cause has been pin-pointed - namely by the detection of the bacillus or virus concerned.

The discovery of the tubercle bacillus by Koch in 1882 marked the turning point in the control of tuberculosis, for it led to more accurate diagnosis, to the development of preventive measures by B.C.G. vaccination and to the later development of streptomycin and other drugs, so invaluable in treatment. Some ten years later the cause of diphtheria was demonstrated by Loeffler and soon anti-toxin was developed for treatment, while in the early thirties there came vaccines for prevention. Now this disease has been virtually eliminated from Britain. The detection of the viruses of poliomyelitis fifteen years ago resulted in the later development of the Salk vaccine administered by injection, and to the more recent Sabin vaccine, now given orally to the majority of children. However, so far all efforts to isolate the viruses of viral gastro-enteritis have failed but everything possible is being done to learn more of the causation, and the Medical Research Council has set up a special committee to consider the problem.

There is no foundation whatever for the suggestion that the diseases listed above, in the recent letter to the "Observer" are in any way related to viral gastro-enteritis. The doctors serving

Crawley, both general practitioners and consultants, are unanimous in the opinion that the incidence of these conditions is in no way abnormal. It must be remembered that Crawley is a "young" town with an exceptionally high proportion of children, and it is inevitable that those infections which are particularly prone to affect the younger age group - whether it be measles, dysentery, or viral diseases - are certain to occur from time to time.

It is clear that alarmist reports and wild exaggerations, such as have circulated during the last nine months, can only do harm to the town and are to be deplored.

The Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations, 1966

The above regulations, which came into operation on the 1st March, 1966, show a return to the established administrative practice of notification of communicable disease in this country, as they replace those made in 1951. Leprosy was first made notifiable in that year, but all information was to be sent in confidence directly to the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health - a departure from the tradition of notification to the Medical Officer of Health, about which the Society of M.O.s.H. protested at the time. Under the new regulations the confidentiality which, for obvious reasons, is so essential when dealing with leprosy, will be maintained, but notifications will be sent instead to the M.O.H. of the local authority in whose area the patient resides. The Chief Medical Officer will continue to receive details of every case.

The purpose of the regulations is to bring any patient suffering from leprosy within the scope of the health and welfare services simply and immediately, and at the same time to make the powers of the Public Health Acts available to M.O.s.H. in case they should be required.

It is important to realise that leprosy is not a highly infectious disease - its infectivity is certainly much less than that of tuberculosis. Only a very few indigenous cases have been reported in Britain during this century.

International Certificates of Vaccination

The occurrence of cases of mild smallpox (variola minor) in the Midland area during March 1966, together with a later outbreak in Monmouthshire, made it necessary for all those leaving our shores, even for a holiday in adjoining countries, to have current international certificates. Whereas the average number stamped each year in the Public Health Department is 900, during 1966 the total rose to 5,416.

Among this total were a surprising number of adults - of all ages - who had recently received a primary smallpox vaccination, some

only a few days before the commencement of holiday. One wonders how many suffered illness, or at least severe discomfort, during their vacation and how many wished that they had chosen their parents more wisely, when they would have been dealt with in childhood and thus given protection not only against smallpox, but against the unpleasant reactions which are so prone to occur when smallpox vaccination is first performed in later life.

Care of the Aged

I am glad to say that it was again unnecessary to take action during the year under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. This is the section which deals with the compulsory removal from their homes of elderly and infirm persons living in insanitary conditions.

I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Steel, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and to his staff for their co-operation during the year and for their help in the compilation of this report.

May I take this opportunity of expressing appreciation of the support which I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Гимназия.

Medical Officer of Health

Staff of the Public Health Department

Kenneth N. Mawson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Hon. F.R.S.H.
Medical Officer of Health; also Assistant County Medical Officer and School M.O. to the West Sussex County Council, and M.O.H. to N.E. Combined Sanitary District of W. Sussex.

T. Steel, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Chief Public Health Inspector

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.

G.A. Faulkner, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.

Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society of Health.

L.P. Poole, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Additional Public Health Inspector

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.

D.W. Townsend, M.A.P.H.I., Additional Public Health Inspector

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.

Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society of Health.

Diploma in Bacteriology.

Technical Assistant/Chief Clerk - A. Moss

Trainee Public Health Inspector - W. J. Heron

Clerk/Typist - Miss G. Weston

Junior Clerk - Miss K.M. Dewar

Secretary to M.O.H. - Miss M. Heydon

CRAWLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCILStatistics & Social Conditions of the Area 1966

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| Area (Acres) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5,622 |
| Estimated resident population, mid-1966 | .. | | | ... | 61,290 |
| Approximate No. of Domestic Hereditaments as at 31st December, 1966 | ... | ... | | ... | 17,700 |
| Rateable Value (31st December, 1966) | ... | | | ... | £3,490,051 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1966/67) | | | | ... | £15,250 |

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

| | <u>Total</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | |
|---|--------------|-----------|-------------------|--|
| Live Births (Legitimate) | 1022 | 514 | 508 |) Birth Rate = 17.65) per 1,000 estimated resident population in mid-1966. |
| (Illegitimate) | 60 | 31 | 29 | |
| Illegitimate Live Births = 5.55% | | | | |
| Still Births (Legitimate) | 20 | 8 | 12 |) Rate per 1,000 total births = 19.04 |
| (Illegitimate) | 1 | - | 1 | |
| Deaths | 355 | 174 | 181 | Crude Death Rate = 5.79 |
| England & Wales Birth Rate = 17.7 | | | Death Rate = 11.7 | |
| Birth Rate corrected by Comparability Factor = 13.94 | | | | |
| Death Rate corrected by Comparability Factor = 11.06 | | | | |
| West Sussex Urban Districts Birth Rate = 16.0 Death Rate = 10.1 | | | | |
| Deaths from Puerperal Causes: (Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion) = 0 | | | | |

During the year, 5 male and 9 female infants died before a year.
All but one were legitimate infants.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:-

| | |
|---|-------|
| All Infants per 1,000 Live Births | 12.94 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births | 12.72 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births | 16.67 |
| (Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales | 19.0) |
| Of the above 14 infant deaths, eleven (4 male and 7 female) occurred in the first month. | |
| Neonatal I.M.R. | 10.17 |
| Early Neonatal Mortality Rate | 4.62 |
| Perinatal Mortality Rate | 23.57 |

Extracts from Vital Statistics (Continued)

| | |
|---|---------|
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | 71 (82) |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | 0 (0) |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) | 0 (0) |

(The figures in brackets refer to 1965)

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE CRAWLEY URBAN DISTRICT

| | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Tuberculosis, respiratory | 1 (0) | 0 (0) |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other | 0 (1) | 1 (0) |
| 3. Syphilitic disease | 0 (1) | 0 (0) |
| 4. Diphtheria | 0 (0) | 0 (0) |
| 5. Whooping Cough | 0 (0) | 0 (0) |
| 6. Meningococcal infections | 0 (0) | 0 (0) |
| 7. Acute poliomyelitis | 0 (0) | 0 (0) |
| 8. Measles | 0 (0) | 0 (0) |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases | 0 (1) | 0 (1) |
| 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 1 (7) | 1 (3) |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 15(22) | 6 (4) |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast | 0 (0) | 10 (8) |
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus | - - | 3 (2) |
| 14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms | 20(18) | 15(18) |
| 15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia | 2 (1) | 1 (1) |
| 16. Diabetes | 0 (1) | 2 (2) |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system | 11(14) | 31(28) |
| 18. Coronary disease, angina | 51(36) | 25(25) |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease | 1 (2) | 2 (1) |
| 20. Other heart disease | 9(10) | 26(16) |
| 21. Other circulatory disease | 10(10) | 9 (7) |
| 22. Influenza | 1 (0) | 0 (0) |
| 23. Pneumonia | 13(10) | 16 (9) |
| 24. Bronchitis | 13 (5) | 3 (4) |
| 25. Other diseases of respiratory system | 2 (0) | 1 (1) |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | 0 (1) | 0 (2) |
| 27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | 0 (0) | 1 (2) |
| 28. Nephritis and nephrosis | 2 (2) | 2 (1) |
| 29. Hyperplasia of prostate | 1 (1) | - - |
| 30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion | - - | 0 (0) |
| 31. Congenital malformations | 2 (3) | 8 (2) |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 13 (3) | 11 (9) |
| 33. Motor vehicle accidents | 4 (5) | 2 (2) |
| 34. All other accidents | 0 (0) | 2 (1) |
| 35. Suicide | 2 (8) | 3 (2) |
| 36. Homicide and operations of war | 0 (0) | 0 (0) |
| | <u>174(162)</u> | <u>181(151)</u> |

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Situated between the Forest Ridge and the Weald in pleasant country, Crawley was for long a market town and shopping centre for the surrounding rural districts. Its recorded history dates back to Norman times. In the middle of the eighteenth century the London to Brighton Road, passing through the town, was one of the most frequented highways in Britain and the George Inn became a famous coaching house.

In 1947 it was decided that Crawley, with the surrounding area, should be expanded into one of the eight New Towns which it was planned to build in a ring approximately 25-30 miles from the centre of London. Crawley can claim the distinction of being the first of these to reach the stage of completion. Whereas the designated area of the town housed only 9,500 people in 1947, the present population is over 65,000. Thus many people, mainly from the metropolis, have moved to new surroundings where they enjoy a high standard of living and have established a settled community. Covering 6,000 acres, the town is approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles across and is surrounded by a green belt with ready access to the countryside. The Crawley Development Corporation was responsible for the planning and building of the town, including the majority of houses, most shops and some factories, but the administration of the area is in the hands of the local authorities - the West Sussex County Council and the Crawley Urban District Council.

The town was planned to have nine residential areas, with populations varying from 4,600 to 8,250, a Town Centre and an Industrial Area, the last being situated to the north of the town on the London side, adjoining the main road and railway. Each residential area is largely self-contained, having a Primary School, shops which provide for daily needs, a Church and a Public House. This arrangement cuts to a minimum the distance which children are obliged to walk to school in their early years. A tenth Neighbourhood is now in course of development, 905 dwellings being already in occupation. As Education Authority the West Sussex County Council has provided Primary, Secondary Modern and Grammar Schools, and a flourishing College of Further Education has been established serving a wide area.

The first permanent Community Centre was built adjoining West Green Primary School, but since 1963 Community and Youth Centres have been provided in all developed Neighbourhoods.

The number of occupied dwellings which were erected by the Crawley Development Corporation and the New Towns Commission (Crawley Executive) totalled 11,675, including both houses and flats, at the end of the year.

There is a wide variation in the size and type of accommodation provided, with over 265 types of dwelling, and the average density is 12.3 to the acre. At the end of 1966 the Crawley Urban District Council had 1,238 properties in occupation.

The vast majority of the residents work in Crawley, either in factories or in the town's services. Eighty-seven factories are at present in production. Unemployment remains at a very low level. The total number at work in the town at the close of the year was 36,746 (19,008 in industry; 17,738 in other trades and occupations).

The policy adopted by the Crawley Development Corporation was to provide a limited number of shops in the Neighbourhood Centres, 136 in all, a larger number being in the more distant areas. The Town Centre has become a shopping area of regional importance, having over 150 new shops trading. This figure includes department stores, banks, gas and electricity showrooms, etc.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following cases were notified during 1966. The figures in brackets indicate the number of cases notified the previous year.

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|--------|
| Scarlet Fever | 13 | (13) |
| Whooping Cough | 10 | (1) |
| Measles | 152 | (1219) |
| Food Poisoning | 1 | (1) |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 26 | (28) |
| Dysentery | 156 | (1) |

TUBERCULOSIS

Number of cases added to the Register during the year - 20
(26 in 1965)

(Of this number 15 were new cases, the remainder being "transfers" when the patient moved to Crawley).

| | | | |
|-------------------|----|-----------------------|---|
| Pulmonary Males | 4 | Non-Pulmonary Males | 4 |
| Pulmonary Females | 10 | Non-Pulmonary Females | 2 |

An overhaul of the register has recently been made in conjunction with the Chest Physician and it has been possible to remove a considerable number of names. Whereas the total shown in 1965 was 330, the figure is now reduced to 76.

One male death was certified as being attributable to pulmonary tuberculosis and one female died from non-pulmonary disease.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

I am indebted to Dr. T. McL. Galloway, the County Medical Officer of Health, for the following tables:-

Statistics for year ended 31st December, 1966

| Type of Vaccine | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1959-62 | Others under age 16 | Total |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|---------|---------------------|-------|
| <u>TRIPLE ANTIGEN</u> | | | | | | | |
| Primary | 576 | 491 | 26 | 18 | 2 | - | 1,113 |
| Booster | - | 605 | 553 | 143 | 7 | - | 1,308 |
| <u>DIPHTHERIA</u> | | | | | | | |
| Primary | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Booster | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 3 |
| <u>DIPHTHERIA/ TETANUS</u> | | | | | | | |
| Primary | 3 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 37 | 5 | 57 |
| Booster | - | 5 | 13 | 17 | 2,116 | 1,280 | 3,431 |
| <u>TETANUS</u> | | | | | | | |
| Primary | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 |
| Booster | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| <u>POLIOMYELITIS</u> | | | | | | | |
| Primary | 577 | 570 | 47 | 51 | 142 | 84 | 1,471 |
| Booster | | 594 | 502 | 135 | 1,602 | 221 | 3,054 |

13.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

PERSONS AGED UNDER 16

| Age at date of Vaccination | Number of Persons Vaccinated or Re-Vaccinated During Period | |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| | Number Vaccinated | Number Re-Vaccinated |
| 0-3 months | | |
| 3-6 months | 2 | |
| 6-9 months | 3 | |
| 9-12 months | 7 | |
| 1 year | 1,008 | |
| 2-4 years | 243 | 16 |
| 5-15 years | 65 | 831 |
| TOTAL | 1,328 | 847 |

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

by the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. T. Steel

The routine inspection of food premises was again an aspect of the work of the department which suffered as a result of demands in other directions. A further outbreak of Sonne dysentery disrupted the early part of the year and, later on, with two smoke control orders coming into operation together, much of the available time had to be devoted to arranging and supervising works of adaptation.

The filling of the approved post for another Inspector would have prevented the lapse in respect of food premises but, following the Government's demand for economy, it was decided not to fill the post for the time being. It is to be hoped that this will be appreciated if any resultant lowering of standards becomes apparent.

With the steady growth of the population and the never-ending influx of new legislation, it is essential that all the staff of such a small department make particular efforts to keep up-to-date and remain keen and interested. In this respect I express my appreciation of the existing members of the staff for their continued diligence and loyalty.

TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS FOR ALL PURPOSES 5,965

WATER SUPPLY

The results of routine chemical and bacteriological examinations indicated the maintenance of satisfactory standards.

Four complaints were received. Three concerned the disturbance of deposits in the mains and were referred to the Water Board with satisfactory results. The fourth concerned the discovery of minute particles of foreign matter which were found to be of iron.

Examination of Treated Water (from supply points)

Fourteen samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and four samples for chemical examination. All were satisfactory.

| No. of dwelling-houses supplied with mains water direct to the houses | Estimated population |
|--|-------------------------|
| 17,802 | 64,000 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| New houses connected to main supply | 236 |
| Number of houses with private supply | 4 |
| Number of sources involved | 4 |
| Bacteriological samples taken from private supplies | - |
| Number of samples found unsatisfactory | - |

SWIMMING POOLSPublic

The quality of the water in the Council's pool remained satisfactory throughout the year, as was confirmed by routine chemical and bacteriological examinations of samples.

Private

There are eleven private pools, ten being at schools and one at a factory on the industrial estate. Periodic checks by chloroscope gave satisfactory results, as did all of the eight samples taken for bacteriological examination.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Number of notices served under the Public Health Act:-

Formal 3

Informal 15

Number of notices complied with:-

Formal 2

Informal 7

COMPLAINTS (re Public Health and Housing Matters)

Number of complaints received 57

Inspections 57

Re-inspections 26

MOVEABLE DWELLINGSPublic Health Act, 1936Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960

Inspections 17

Number of notices served -

Number of moveable dwellings previously
licensed under Public Health Act -

Number of site licences issued under Caravan

Sites & Control of Development Act -

The number of caravans in the district remained small and again no exception

SECTION 89, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936Power to require sanitary conveniences to be provided at inns, refreshment houses, etc.

No action was found necessary during this year in respect of provision for customers, but, where appropriate, advice was given regarding the desirability of providing separate accommodation for staff in order to minimise the risks of the spread of infections.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Total number of visits | 1570 |
| Rooms disinfected | - |
| Number of personal specimens.... | 477 |

The number of visits is almost five times as many as in 1965, the increase being entirely due to a further outbreak of Sonne dysentery. 156 cases were notified although, as is usual with this disease, the actual incidence was no doubt much greater. (175 additional cases were discovered by the Department).

The outbreak affected children at a day nursery (which was subsequently closed for two weeks) and several junior schools.

In the absence of immediate diagnosis and notification, there is little that can be done to prevent the spread of this infection wherever young children gather. There can be no doubt that the spread is by way of commonly handled articles and that toilets are the focal points, with a rapid succession of hands touching soiled seats, flush-chains and door-handles. It is impracticable to disinfect all possibly-contaminated surfaces after each individual - particularly during the "rush hours" at break times and mid-day. There is evidence that antiseptic hand-dips in or close to toilets effect some control but this is limited by the degree of conscientiousness applied to their use. The application of an antiseptic hand-cream on arrival at school may offer greater control. Some mothers who go out to work are not keen to stop at home to isolate infected children and, where symptoms are slight, doctors are not called in and children are allowed to go to school or are left with neighbours. As only one "missed" case can lead to an extensive outbreak, the difficulty of control can be easily appreciated.

Some research and experiment should be instigated to ascertain whether or not it is physically practicable to so re-equip toilets so that the number of infectable surfaces can be greatly reduced or eliminated. Foot-operated flushing and door-fastening, together with syphonic closets, are innovations which are often talked about but seldom, if ever, implemented. The use of inter-leaved toilet-paper as against toilet "rolls" may also be worthwhile, as handling of the next successive sheet is eliminated.

Unfailing diagnosis and isolation do not appear to be possible but the practical prevention of spread of infection may be. The simplicity of the manner in which infection is spread is seldom appreciated, and more awareness of the facts by parents and school staffs would surely be helpful.

This is, in any case, a facet of basic health education which tends to be forgotten.

INSECT PESTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Number of visits in connection with vermin (bed bugs, fleas etc.) | 6 |
| Number of rooms treated for verminous insects | 9 |
| Advisory visits re non-verminous insects (ants, beetles etc.) | 10 |

Wasps

The Department continued to give advice on the destruction of nests, and considerable use was made of the service offering spraying equipment and insecticide at a small charge.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Present arrangements for sewage disposal are quite adequate, but will require review if the population is to increase to any considerable extent.

There remain only 50 houses with cesspool or other independent means of drainage, and the construction of new sewers with new development will still further reduce this figure in the coming years.

At present, cesspools are emptied by the Council as frequently as necessary, on request from occupiers.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of visits in connection with drainage | 119 |
| Houses connected to main drainage ,..... | - |
| Other premises connected to main drainage | - |
| Houses provided with flushing cisterns .. | - |
| Privies converted to E.Cs. | - |
| E.Cs. converted to W.Cs. | - |
| Drains repaired | 4 |

OFFENSIVE TRADES

| | |
|--|---|
| Number of premises registered (bone boiling & fat extracting) | 1 |
| Number of inspections | 5 |

Satisfactory conditions existed at the time of these inspections and no complaints were received.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1961Byelaws as to Hairdressers and Barbers

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| No. of premises | 26 |
| No. of inspections | 5 |

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Number of complaints | 8 |
| Number of visits | 44 |

Seven complaints were received concerning (a) factory exhaust system (b) commercial distribution depot in a residential area (c) bowling alley (d) public house (e) dog kennels (f) cranes used in the building of the hospital and (g) noise from neighbours.

All practicable action was taken - or appropriate advice given - and there was no occasion for legal proceedings.

Advice was also given in respect of a factory exhaust system which caused nuisance to their office staff.

A watchful eye was kept on proposed development from which noise nuisances might arise, consultations being held with developers where considered necessary.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949Rodent Control

| | |
|--|------|
| Number of notifications received..... | 506 |
| Number of infested premises found as a result of survey | 64 |
| Estimated number of rats killed..... | 1437 |
| Estimated number of mice killed | 179 |
| Number of rats picked up after treatment. | 135 |

The number of complaints shows some increase over 1965 (432) but reflects no significant increase in actual infestations, which again were mainly due to over-generous feeding of birds and careless storage of waste at commercial premises.

Rodent Control (Continued)

The location of most infestations further confirmed the view that there are always some rats in the surrounding countryside which scout the town by way of surface-water drainage systems for supplies of food, and waste no time in settling in when these are found.

If all food supplies were eliminated it is virtually certain that we should have only a minor problem.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955Food Hygiene

It is to be regretted that insufficient enrolments were received for the continuation of courses at Crawley College for the Certificate examination of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene. The course is, however, to be kept available if sufficient enrolments are received for the 1967/68 session and further efforts will be made to secure such enrolments.

Routine inspections of food premises suffered a still further drop following my decision not to fill the staff vacancy in view of the national economic situation, and because of the impracticability of switching attention from other activities requiring immediate attention.

The majority of traders have now become well accustomed to maintaining good standards although subject to such infrequent inspection, but there are some who let things slide and who require extra attention. There will, in addition, always be scope for the further improvement of general standards and it is intended that more attention be paid to this subject in the future.

Food Complaints

77 complaints were received.

27 concerned mouldy or stale food (as against 14 last year) and indicate a continuing lack of effective stock inspection and rotation. In view of the amount of advice which has been given in this respect over the past years it seems that the taking of risks may be forced by staff difficulties or even, in some cases, calculated as being economic in respect of the saving of staff time as against an occasional fine.

Some failures have also arisen from retailers placing too much reliance on the checking of their stock by their supplies without securing adequate agreements to this effect. Retailers generally would be well advised to check the value of any verbal undertakings given in this respect.

29 complaints concerned "foreign bodies" - an increase of 5 over last year's figure. They included such things as glass, a honeysuckle bloom and a thistle head (in milk bottles) ; cigarette ends (meat pie and loaves); a halfpenny (meat pie); nails; maggots and various insects.

Legal proceedings were instituted in three instances, all resulting in convictions as detailed below:-

Food & Drugs Act, 1955 - Section 2

| | <u>Fine</u> | <u>Costs</u> |
|---|-------------|--------------|
| Mouldy Luncheon Sausage | £50 | £5. 5. Od. |
| Filter tip of cigarette in loaf of bread | £45 | £10.10. Od. |
| Rancid and mouldy chocolate cake | £50 | £5. 5. Od. |

POULTRY INSPECTION

No poultry processing premises within the district.

FOOD PREMISESFood Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of inspections..... | 450 |
| Number of notices served | 69 |
| Number of notices complied with..... | 27 |

Premises registered under Section 16

For sale of ice cream:-

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Grocers and Provision shops | 29 |
| Confectioners | 28 |
| Bakers' shops | 9 |
| Greengrocers | 3 |
| Fishmongers | 3 |
| Ice Cream Depot/Store | 2 |
| Garage premises (vending machine) .. | 1 |

For the manufacture of sausages,
preserved foods etc.:-

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Butchers | 23 |
| Grocers | 3 |
| Confectioners | 2 |
| Fishmongers | 8 |
| Bakers' shops | 2 |
| Total | 112 |

Number of food premises in the district

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Grocers and provision shops | 56 |
| Confectioners | 28 |
| Greengrocers | 23 |
| Butchers | 31 |
| Bakehouses | 6 |
| Bakers' shops | 16 |
| Fishmongers | 15 |
| Cafes and Restaurants | 24 |
| Licensed premises | 24 |
| School/Nursery canteens | 34 |
| Factory canteens | 55 |
| Offices & shops canteens | 12 |
| Clubs etc. | 17 |
| Old Peoples Homes/Nursing Homes ... | 3 |
| Guest Houses | 6 |
| Hostels | 2 |

Total 352

TABLE OF SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS

| Article | Number examined | | | Number adulterated or otherwise irregular | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------|---|----------|-------|
| | Formal | Informal | Total | Formal | Informal | Total |
| Bread & Flour | 1 | 8 | 9 | - | 2 | 2 |
| Cereals | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| Flour Confectionery | - | 4 | 4 | - | - | - |
| Cheese & Cheese Products | - | 7 | 7 | - | 1 | 1 |
| Milk | 2 | 20 | 22 | - | 2 | 2 |
| Cream | - | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| Butter | - | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| Margarine | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | - |
| Ice-Cream Powder | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| Meat & Meat Products | - | 17 | 17 | - | 2 | 2 |
| Fish & Fish Products | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | - |
| Sugar Confectionery | - | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| Sauces & Pickles | - | 4 | 4 | - | - | - |
| Soups | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| Beverages | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | - |
| Cordials etc. | - | 13 | 13 | - | - | - |
| Curry Powder | - | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| Yoghurt | - | 2 | 2 | - | 1 | 1 |
| Fresh Fruit | - | 6 | 6 | - | 1 | 1 |
| Other Foods | - | 27 | 27 | - | 5 | 5 |
| Drugs | - | 30 | 30 | - | 6 | 6 |
| TOTAL | 3 | 159 | 162 | - | 6 | 6 |

Food SamplesComments on Irregularities

The majority of these irregularities were of a minor nature and were corrected by informal action. Several also relate to items about which complaints were lodged and which were subsequently submitted for confirmatory analysis.

Five concerned the failure of drugs to reach prescribed standards, and are sufficient indication that the routine sampling of drugs is well justified.

MILKMilk and Dairies Regulations, 1959/63

Number of dairies registered
(distributing depots) 2
Number of registered purveyors of milk.. 47

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963Dealers' Licences

Pasteurised 45
Sterilised 22
Untreated 1
Ultra Heat Treated 1

Number of notices served under
the Regulations -

Number of notices complied with -

Milk Samples

Bacteriological examination of milk:

| Designation | Samples Taken | Up to Standard | Below Standard (Failed Methylene Blue Test) |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|---|
| Untreated | 1 | 1 | - |
| Pasteurised | 56 | 51 | 5 |
| Sterilised | 1 | 1 | - |
| TOTAL | 58 | 53 | 5 |

MILK (Continued)Milk Samples

Biological examination of milk:

| Designation | Samples Taken | Up to standard | Below standard |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Untreated | 4 | 4 | - |

ICE CREAM

| No. of samples | Prov. Grade I | Prov. Grade II | Prov. Grade III | Prov. Grade IV |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 25 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 10 |

The high proportion of poor bacterial gradings should again be noted but, in view of the amount of attention which has previously been given to this subject without achieving any success, I refrain from further comment.

UNFIT FOOD (other than meat at slaughterhouse)

The following articles of food (excluding meat at the slaughterhouse) were examined during the year and certified as unfit for human consumption:-

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 192 Tins Meat | 5 Tins Spaghetti |
| 458 Tins Fruit | 7 Tins Soup |
| 363 Tins Vegetables | 14 Tins Preserves |
| 32 Tins Fish | 1 Packet Oatcakes |
| 18 Tins Milk | 2 Bottles of Sauces |
| 5 Tins Cream | 8 Tins Fruit Juice |
| 22 Tins Milk Pudding | |
| 33½ lbs. Chicken | 14 lbs. Pigs Kidneys |
| 26 st. Fish | 30 lbs. Skinned Rabbits |
| 136 lbs. Beef | 50 lbs. Ox Cheek |
| 2½ lbs. Lamb | 91 lbs. Beef/Lamb mixture |
| 91 lbs. Pork | 28 lbs. Pigs Melts |

Method of Disposal of Condemned Food

Meat and fish are stained and released, where appropriate, for by-product usage; otherwise the condemned food is buried on the Council's refuse tip.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

78 horses were killed in the one licensed slaughterhouse during 1966.

Number of visits 23

KNACKERS' YARDS

Number of premises licensed..... 1

Number of inspections 5

The standards maintained at the knacker's yard have remained satisfactory, both as regards general sanitation and as regards the care of animals taken in.

HOUSING

As can be seen from the following tables, very little action has been necessary in respect of unfit houses - as is to be expected.

Continuing efforts were made to encourage the improvement of older houses, and 11 applications were approved. For various reasons it was found impracticable to make use of the compulsory powers given to local authorities by the Housing Act, 1964.

A considerable amount of attention was given to houses in multiple occupation and 8 new directions were made under Section 19 of the 1961 Act, bringing the total in force at the end of the year up to 38.

Legal proceedings were instituted in one case where the permitted number of persons was exceeded, a fine of £2 being imposed.

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-

Total number of visits for housing defects under
Public Health and Housing Acts 417

Housing Act, 19571. Houses demolished in the period

| | |
|--|---|
| (a) Houses unfit for human habitation | - |
| (b) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc. | - |
| (c) Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43 | 2 |

HOUSING (Continued)Not in Clearance Areas

- (a) As a result of formal or informal procedure
under Sec. 16 or Sec. 17(1) 2
- 2. Houses closed in the period
 - (a) Under Secs. 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) -
 - (b) Under Secs. 17(3) and 26 -
 - (c) Parts of building closed under Sec. 18 -
- 3. Unfit houses in temporary use
 - (a) Retained for temporary accommodation
 - (1) Under Sec. 48 -
 - (2) Under Sec. 17(2) -
 - (3) Under Sec. 46 -
 - (b) Licensed for temporary occupation under
Secs. 34 and 53 -
- 4. Houses Let-in-Lodgings
 - (a) Formal notices served under Sec. 90 -
 - (b) Formal notices complied with -
- 5. Overcrowding - Part IV, Housing Act, 1957
 - (a) 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year -
 - 2. Number of families dwelling therein -
 - 3. Number of persons dwelling therein -
 - (b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during
the year 1
 - (c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during
the year 1
 - (d) Number of formal notices to abate overcrowding... 1
 - (e) Number of formal notices complied with 1
 - (f) Number of informal notices to abate overcrowding. -
 - (g) Number of informal notices complied with -

Housing (Continued)6. Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied

Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing and Public Health Acts 9

(a) After formal action under Public Health Act:

1. By owners 2
2. By local authority in default of owners -

(b) After formal action under Secs. 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957:

1. By owners -
2. By local authority in default of owners -

(c) Under Sec. 24, Housing Act, 1957 -

Housing Act, 1961 (Part II)

No. of inspections (Secs. 15 & 16) 37
 No. of directions made (Sec. 19) 8

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

Number of discretionary improvement grants..... -
 Number of standard improvement grants 11

Rent Act, 1957 - Certificates of Disrepair

Number of Form G received -
 Number of Undertakings accepted -
 Number of Certificates issued -
 Number of Certificates cancelled -
 Number of Undertakings complied with -

SECTION 60, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 - Means of Escape from Fire in the case of Certain High Buildings

Number of inspections 2
 Number of notices served:-
 Formal -
 Informal -
 Number of notices complied with:-
 Formal -
 Informal -

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956Smoke Control Areas

Consequent on the postponement for one year of the coming into force of the West Green Order, both this Order and that for Langley Green became operative in 1966. Consequently all available time had to be devoted to the supervision of works of adaptation and it was not possible to carry out the survey of Northgate.

These circumstances were in some ways fortuitous as, later in the year, it was learned that the Council should have been notified - in view of a probable future shortage of gas coke in the region of the South Eastern Gas Board - that they should now offer the "higher standard" of conversion even in respect of "approved" open fires.

Present proposals are that the Northgate neighbourhood now be surveyed in 1967 and that the making of an Order be considered in the light of the probable extra expenditure which would be incurred under the revised grant arrangements. It is possible, however, that it will be found that a higher proportion of residents have themselves already installed "high standard" appliances - mainly gas room-heaters.

It has also again been apparent that a small minority of residents in Smoke Control Areas have been burning unapproved coals. It is felt, however, that the best method of controlling such infringements is to make it illegal to buy or sell unapproved coals for use in smoke-controlled premises. At the moment the onus is on occupiers not to emit smoke and a conscientious fuel merchant is likely to lose the custom of those who insist on using unapproved coal if it can readily be obtained elsewhere.

Industrial Plant

There has been little change as regards industrial plant during the year. Where Section 10 of the Act has been applicable, adequate chimney heights have been obtained. The necessity for chimneys being higher than hitherto now seems to be more readily accepted.

In view of the high general standard of plant on the Industrial Estate it has been decided to include the Estate in the Northgate Smoke Control Order and preliminary agreement to this has been obtained from the Ministry. That such a move is possible indicates very good co-operation from the industrialists involved. It will also be of useful public relations value when dealing with residential areas.

Further discussions have been held with the occupiers of a factory where wood-waste is burnt with a view to further reducing the smoke emission from this particularly difficult fuel.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Total No. of premises registered at end of year | 583 |
| No. of employees in registered premises | |
| Male:- | 2,783 |
| Female:- | <u>3,802</u> |
| Total: | <u>6,585</u> |
| No. of visits | 236 |
| No. of premises receiving a general inspection during the year | 26 |
| No. of accidents reported | 16 |

The comparatively small number of full inspections was occasioned by staffing difficulties on the clerical side and the necessity for the Chief Clerk/Technical Assistant to devote most of his time to office duties.

However, as attention was given to most of the constructional requirements of premises at their planning stage (in many cases in advance of the passing of the Act), it was felt that the overall position was reasonably satisfactory provided that lost ground could be made up in 1967.

Details of inspections and action taken under this Act are the subject of a separate return to the Ministry, a copy of which is available for inspection by any interested persons.

Other visits made were in connection with 4 of the 16 accidents reported. (An accident is reportable if it results in the death of the injured employee or in his absence from work for more than 3 days).

There were no fatalities and all 16 accidents were of a comparatively minor nature - strains, sprains, bruises, fractures to arm, hand and rib.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

(1) Inspections for purposes of provision as to health.

| Premises (1) | Number on Register (2) | Number of | | |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Inspections (3) | Written Notices (4) | Occupiers Prosecuted (5) |
| (i) Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authority | 3 | - | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by local authority | 203 | 10 | 2 | - |
| (iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by local authority (ex- cluding outworkers' premises) | 39 | 11 | - | - |
| TOTAL | 245 | 21 | 2 | - |

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 (Continued)

(2) Cases in which defects were found.

| Particulars (1) | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6) |
|---|---|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | Found (2) | Remedied (3) | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector (4) | By H.M. Inspector (5) | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors(S.6) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | - | - | - | - | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 2 | - | - | - | - |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 2 | - | - | - | - |

Outwork - Sections 133 and 134

| Nature of Work (1) | Section 133 | | | Section 134 | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | No. of out-workers in Aug. list required by S.133 (1)(c)(2) (2) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3) | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4) | No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises (5) | Notices served (6) | Prosecutions (7) |
| Wearing Apparel (making) | 4 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Toys | 57 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Costume Jewellery | 72 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Xmas Crackers & Snow Novelties | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 135 | - | - | - | - | - |

HOME SAFETYHeating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952Consumer Protection Act, 1961Fabrics (Misdescription) Act, 1913Fabrics (Misdescription) Regulations, 1959

A general watch has been kept on the heating appliances being sold in the district. Most appliances now bear reference to the appropriate British Standard and it was not considered necessary to test any appliance.

No occasion arose for submitting fabrics for testing.

Oil Heaters Regulations, 1962

All oil heaters seen to be on sale in the district were noted to be bearing the appropriate British Standard Certification mark.

However, following the receipt of a complaint concerning poor operation and objectionable fumes from a heater which had been delivered on approval by a mail order firm, this heater was found to have a defective brazed joint on the fuel feed section which allowed leakage.

In view of the legal difficulties which were apparent after consideration of the wording of the Regulations and of the particular circumstances of the proposed method of sale, the Committee decided to refer the matter to the British Standards Institution.

The Institution subsequently expressed confidence in the manufacturer's products and considered this fault to be an isolated failure.

Local Home Safety Committee

Although this is a voluntary organisation, its formation in 1960 was sponsored by the Council and relies on a Council grant for its support. The Medical Officer of Health, my Deputy and I continue to serve on the Committee.

An exhibition forming part of "Safety Week" was held in July in collaboration with Road Safety and Industrial Safety organisations, the British Pharmaceutical Society's display "Medicines with Care" forming part of the Home Safety exhibit. The large marquee in the Town Centre proved an ideal site for such an exhibition and the estimated 10,000 visitors included organised groups of school children, who were conducted around the exhibits.

Every opportunity has been taken to talk to local groups, the majority of which were women's organisations.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of licences issued | 77 |
| Number of inspections | 220 |
| Number of disused installations made safe ... | - |

Although the situation as regards licensable materials can be regarded as generally satisfactory, cases were still noted of comparable dangers arising in respect of non-licensable materials over which no control can be exercised. (In conjunction with the County Fire Officer, however, advice was given (as occasions allowed) as to precautions which could be taken.

PETROLEUM (Continued)

Membership of the Association for Petroleum Acts Administration is proving to be of great value, particularly in view of the limited advice and guidance which is obtainable from the Home Office.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Total inspections for all purposes 87

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Number of premises licensed 5
Number of inspections 3

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

No. of applications for licences received .. 2
No. of licences issued 2
No. of visits 6

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

No. of applications for licences received... 1
No. of licences issued 1
No. of visits 2

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION ATTENDED

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| L. P. Poole | Week-end Seminar |
| Additional Inspector | - Clacton-on-Sea, The Association of Public Health Inspectors |
| D.W. Townsend | Mid-week School, Shrewsbury, |
| Additional Inspector | - Association for Petroleum Acts Administration. |

The scope of the Public Health Inspectors' duties is continually widening and technical advancements have been particularly rapid in recent years. Constant post-qualification study is essential and the Council's ready appreciation of this point is welcomed.

APPENDIX A

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Laboratory Facilities

Routine bacteriological work is carried out at the Brighton Public Health Laboratory. Routine samples of water, milk and ice-cream are submitted, together with many other types of specimens. Arrangements have been made for the despatch to the laboratory by the Public Health Department of any specimens which general practitioners may wish to send for examination.

We are indebted to Dr. J.E. Jameson, the Director of the Laboratory, for his assistance and advice on many occasions.

2. Ambulance Service

The ambulance service is administered by the County Council. Six ambulance vehicles were in use, and the staff increased to ten Driver/Attendants. During 1966 the Crawley ambulances covered 102,310 miles and conveyed 16,588 patients.

3. Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Disease

The majority of cases of infectious disease in need of hospital treatment are normally admitted to Foredown I.D.H. at Hove, although the number sent in during 1966 was small. I must express my appreciation of the helpful co-operation of the Medical Superintendent.

We are advised that any cases of Smallpox occurring in the District should be sent to the River Hospital (Long Reach), Dartford, Kent.

4. Clinics and Treatment Centres

A. By Local Health Authority

The following is an account of the Services provided in the area by the West Sussex County Council as Local Health Authority.

(a) Nursing: The West Sussex County Council employs District Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors and School Nurses. In Crawley the Health Visitors act as School Nurses, but District Nurses and Midwives operate separately.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare: Infant Welfare Clinics are held as follows:-

Health Clinic, Exchange Road, Crawley. Sessions are held each Tuesday from 2 p.m., a doctor being in attendance.

Langley Green Clinic. Sessions are held each Wednesday from 2.30 p.m., a doctor being in attendance.

Jubilee Hall, Three Bridges. Sessions are held twice weekly (Monday and Thursday) from 2 p.m. A doctor is in attendance on the first, third and fifth Mondays and also on the second and fourth Thursdays in the month.

Bishop Bell Clinic, Tilgate. Sessions are held on Mondays and Fridays from 2 - 4 p.m., a doctor being in attendance on the second and fourth Monday, and also on the first, third and fifth Friday in the month.

Ifield Community Hut. Sessions are held weekly on Fridays from 2 - 4 p.m., a doctor being in attendance on the second and fourth Friday in the month.

Southgate Community Hut. Sessions are held each Thursday from 2 - 4 p.m., a doctor being in attendance on the third Thursday in the month.

Gossops Green Clinic (at Gossops Green School). Sessions are held weekly on Wednesdays from 10 a.m., a doctor being in attendance.

Family Planning Clinic. Family Planning Clinics are held at:-

Health Clinic, Exchange Road, Crawley, at 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Mondays and 1.45 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. on Fridays, and for Oral Contraception only on Thursdays from 6.45 p.m.

Bishop Bell Clinic, Tilgate, on Mondays, 9.45 a.m. to 11.45 a.m.

Relaxation Classes

Health Clinic, Exchange Road. Classes are held weekly on Mondays at 2 p.m.

(c) School Health Service. Regular inspections of children are carried out at all schools by the District M.O.H. and other School Medical Officers in the service of the County Council.

Two full-time Dental Surgeons operate in Crawley. Regular sessions are held at the Crawley Health Clinic and Langley Green Clinic.

Eye, Orthopaedic, Child Guidance, Physiotherapy and Speech Clinics are held in the town.

Sessions for immunisation are held at the Crawley Health Clinic, and at the Clinics in Three Bridges, Tilgate, Gossops Green, Langley Green, Southgate and Ifield.

(d) Home Help Service. The County Council provides a directly-administered Home Help Service. All enquiries should be addressed to the Area Home Help Organiser, 32-40, North Street, Horsham.

B. Other Facilities

(i) Hospital and Specialist Services. A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Hospital accommodation of a private nature is available in certain circumstances, subject to appropriate charges.

(ii) General Medical and Dental Services. Everyone is entitled, as part of the arrangements of the National Health Service, to general medical and dental care. Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Executive Council for West Sussex, 175, Broyle Road, Chichester.

(iii) Crawley Chest Clinic. Patients who are referred to the Consultant Chest Physician are seen at the Clinic in Crawley Hospital, where sessions are held on Wednesdays and Fridays.

(iv) Venereal Diseases. Patients may attend the Clinic at the Redhill General Hospital or at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton. Treatment is confidential and times are as follows:-

Redhill General Hospital

Men - Mondays 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Royal Sussex County Hospital

Men - Mondays 2 - 3 p.m. and 4 - 7 p.m.
Wednesdays 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.
Thursdays 2 - 4.30 p.m.

Women - Tuesdays 4 - 6.30 p.m.
Thursdays 10 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Men and Women - Fridays 11 a.m. to 12 noon (by appointment only)

Sessions for women are also held at the Croydon General Hospital on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and Fridays at 5.30 p.m.

(1)

APPENDIX B

WATER EXAMINATION

I am indebted to Mr. E. R. Griffiths, M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., the Chief Engineer to the North West Sussex Water Board, for information regarding the examination of water at source. All examinations are carried out by Mr. T.B. Wood, B.Sc., A.M.Inst.F., Chief Chemist and Bacteriologist to the Board. Mr. Griffiths comments as follows:-

- (a) Quality of water - satisfactory
Quantity of water - adequate
- (b) Bacteriological and chemical analyses are shown in the following tables.
- (c) Plumbo-solvent action is not likely to take place with the present supply and of the samples taken in the distribution system no lead has been isolated.
- (d) No contamination has been isolated. Suspect samples obtained from consumers' taps have been found to be satisfactory upon re-test after cleaning and sterilisation of tap components.
- (e) No dwelling houses are supplied by means of standpipes. Mains water is supplied to all 17,700 dwellings.

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Bacteriological Examinations

| Type | Source | No. of Samples | % Free from Coliform Type | % Free from E. Coli |
|-------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Raw Water | Hardham River Intake | 52 | NIL | NIL |
| | " Borehole No. 2 | 67 | 97.0 | 100 |
| | " " No. 3 | 81 | 100 | 100 |
| | " " No. 4 | 65 | 98.5 | 100 |
| | " " No. 5 | 23 | 95.7 | 100 |
| | " " No. 6 | 36 | 100 | 100 |
| | Combined Borehole Inlet | 47 | 100 | 100 |
| | Weir Wood | 48 | NIL | 35.4 |
| Final Water | Hardham | 301 | 100 | 100 |
| | Weir Wood | 96 | 100 | 100 |
| | Distribution * | 392 | 98.7 | 99.5 |
| | Reservoirs | 321 | 97.2 | 100 |
| | Kiosks | 281 | 98.9 | 100 |
| | New Mains ** | 260 | 82.7 | 96.0 |

* Suspect samples obtained from consumer's taps have been found to be satisfactory upon re-test after cleaning and sterilisation of tap components.

** No new mains have been used for supply purposes until satisfactory bacteriological examinations have been obtained.

(3)

FINAL WATERS 1966/67

| No. of Samples | SOURCE | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|------|------|-----------|------|------|
| | HARDHAM | | | WEIR WOOD | | |
| | 104 | | | 95 | | |
| | Av. | Max. | Min. | Av. | Max. | Min. |
| Temp. °C | 11.9 | 15.1 | 9.8 | 12.2 | 20.3 | 3.4 |
| Colour | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| pH | 7.70 | 8.80 | 6.40 | 8.05 | 9.00 | 6.85 |
| Electrical Conductivity | 268 | 360 | 155 | 273 | 285 | 245 |
| Total Dissolved Solids ppm | 177 | 262 | 105 | 185 | 261 | 146 |
| Total Hardness ppm | 109 | 144 | 50 | 111 | 120 | 98 |
| Temporary Hardness ppm | 73 | 128 | 26 | 56 | 69 | 33 |
| Chlorides ppm | 25 | 28 | 20 | 27 | 31 | 24 |
| Free Carbon Dioxide ppm | 3.5 | 12.4 | NIL | 1.2 | 6.0 | NIL |
| Iron ppm | 0.04 | 0.26 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.01 |
| Manganese ppm | 0.03 | 0.17 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 |
| Aluminium ppm | 0.03 | 0.42 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.12 | 0.02 |
| Fluorides ppm | 0.08 | 0.20 | 0.01 | 0.11 | 0.22 | 0.04 |
| Residual Chlorine ppm | 0.21 | 0.45 | 0.10 | 0.36 | 1.00 | 0.10 |

RAW WATERS 1966/67

| No. of Samples | Source | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------|-------|------------------------|-------|-------|------------------------|------|-------|------------------------|------|-------|------------------------|------|-------|------------------------|-------|-------|----------------------------|------|-------|-----------|------|-------|
| | HARDHAM RIVER INTAKE | | | HARDHAM NO. 2 BOREHOLE | | | HARDHAM NO. 3 BOREHOLE | | | HARDHAM NO. 4 BOREHOLE | | | HARDHAM NO. 5 BOREHOLE | | | HARDHAM NO. 6 BOREHOLE | | | HARDHAM COMBINED B/H INLET | | | WEIR WOOD | | |
| | 52 | | | 6 | | | 9 | | | 7 | | | 5 | | | 8 | | | 47 | | | 48 | | |
| | Av. | Max. | Min. | Av. | Max. | Min. | Av. | Max. | Min. | Av. | Max. | Min. | Av. | Max. | Min. | Av. | Max. | Min. | Av. | Max. | Min. | Av. | Max. | Min. |
| Temp °C | 10.4 | 17.5 | 2.4 | 11.2 | 11.3 | 11.2 | 11.1 | 11.3 | 11.0 | 11.5 | 11.6 | 11.3 | 11.5 | 11.6 | 11.5 | 11.5 | 11.5 | 11.5 | 11.3 | 11.5 | 11.0 | 11.4 | 19.6 | 2.7 |
| Colour | 27 | 100 | 10 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | 20 | 45 | 10 |
| pH | 7.79 | 8.15 | 7.20 | 5.99 | 6.20 | 5.90 | 6.43 | 6.70 | 6.20 | 5.44 | 5.55 | 5.40 | 5.65 | 5.80 | 5.50 | 5.17 | 5.45 | 4.90 | 6.00 | 6.40 | 5.35 | 7.82 | 8.50 | 7.40 |
| Electrical Conductivity | 343 | 400 | 203 | 166 | 175 | 155 | 215 | 245 | 190 | 126 | 135 | 120 | 67 | 70 | 65 | 143 | 160 | 135 | 160 | 265 | 125 | 234 | 248 | 225 |
| Total Dissolved Solids ppm | 235 | 274 | 114 | 108 | 132 | 79 | 130 | 162 | 107 | 79 | 110 | 23 | 50 | 54 | 46 | 108 | 134 | 95 | 101 | 168 | 73 | 152 | 230 | 117 |
| Suspended Solids ppm | 21 | 131 | Trace | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | 5 | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | 7 | 46 | Trace |
| Total Hardness ppm | 156 | 186 | 80 | 52 | 60 | 47 | 76 | 93 | 65 | 32 | 38 | 28 | 12 | 15 | 10 | 37 | 46 | 32 | 48 | 65 | 26 | 92 | 104 | 84 |
| Temporary Hardness ppm | 123 | 150 | 57 | 24 | 30 | 20 | 45 | 57 | 37 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 17 | 5 | 22 | 91 | 7 | 57 | 70 | 46 |
| Chloride ppm | 25 | 30 | 17 | 21 | 23 | 20 | 24 | 26 | 22 | 20 | 23 | 19 | 18 | 19 | 16 | 25 | 27 | 23 | 22 | 25 | 17 | 23 | 26 | 18 |
| Free Carbon Dioxide ppm | 3.3 | 8.1 | 0.6 | 31.7 | 37.6 | 23.6 | 28.8 | 38.8 | 21.0 | 25.9 | 31.2 | 20.6 | 11.2 | 15.6 | 6.0 | 30.9 | 39.1 | 15.6 | 29.3 | 38.4 | 17.4 | 2.1 | 6.4 | 0.6 |
| Iron ppm | 0.93 | 3.00 | 0.28 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.03 | <0.01 | 0.05 | 0.07 | 0.04 | 0.12 | 0.36 | <0.01 | 0.22 | 1.12 | <0.01 | 0.04 | 0.77 | <0.01 | 0.16 | 0.44 | 0.04 |
| Manganese ppm | 0.05 | 0.18 | <0.01 | <0.01 | 0.02 | <0.01 | <0.01 | 0.01 | <0.01 | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.01 | <0.01 | 0.01 | <0.01 | 0.17 | 0.19 | 0.16 | 0.06 | 0.10 | 0.01 | 0.15 | 0.60 | 0.03 |
| Aluminium ppm | <0.02 | <0.02 | <0.02 | <0.02 | <0.02 | <0.02 | <0.02 | 0.02 | <0.02 | <0.02 | 0.02 | <0.02 | <0.02 | 0.02 | <0.02 | <0.02 | 0.02 | <0.02 | <0.02 | 0.04 | <0.02 | <0.02 | 0.06 | <0.02 |
| Fluoride ppm | 0.13 | 0.32 | 0.05 | 0.03 | 0.07 | NIL | 0.07 | 0.21 | <0.01 | 0.03 | 0.05 | <0.01 | <0.01 | 0.02 | <0.01 | <0.01 | <0.01 | <0.01 | 0.03 | 0.14 | <0.01 | 0.12 | 0.25 | 0.05 |



